



Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee Meeting

Lorie H. Tudor, P.E.

ARDOT Director

June 17, 2021



Agenda B

**Progress of Highway
Construction Projects
\$10 Million or Greater**



Agenda C

Update on I-40

Hernando de Soto Bridge

Mississippi River



INSPECTION

May 11, 2021

I-40 Mississippi River Bridge
is closed after a fracture was
discovered in the tie girder (beam).



ARDOT

State Highway Bridges

7,383

Total Bridges

12,776



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Highway
Administration

Publication No. FHWA NHI 12-049
December, 2012

Bridge Inspector's Reference Manual



BIRM
Volume 1



NATIONAL HIGHWAY INSTITUTE
Building Solutions For Transportation Excellence



BRIDGE INSPECTION MANUAL Edition of 2020



Revised June 16, 2020

“I congratulate you on your proactive efforts to maintain your bridge inventory at the highest level.”

– FHWA Review 2011

“AHTD continues to strive to improve its bridge inspection program.”

– FHWA Review 2015

Bridge Inspectors

“...appreciate the significant bridge safety inspection program improvements made by your NBIS Program Manager, Mr. Mike Hill, and by your Load Rating Engineer, Mr. David Ball, as well as their respective staffs.”

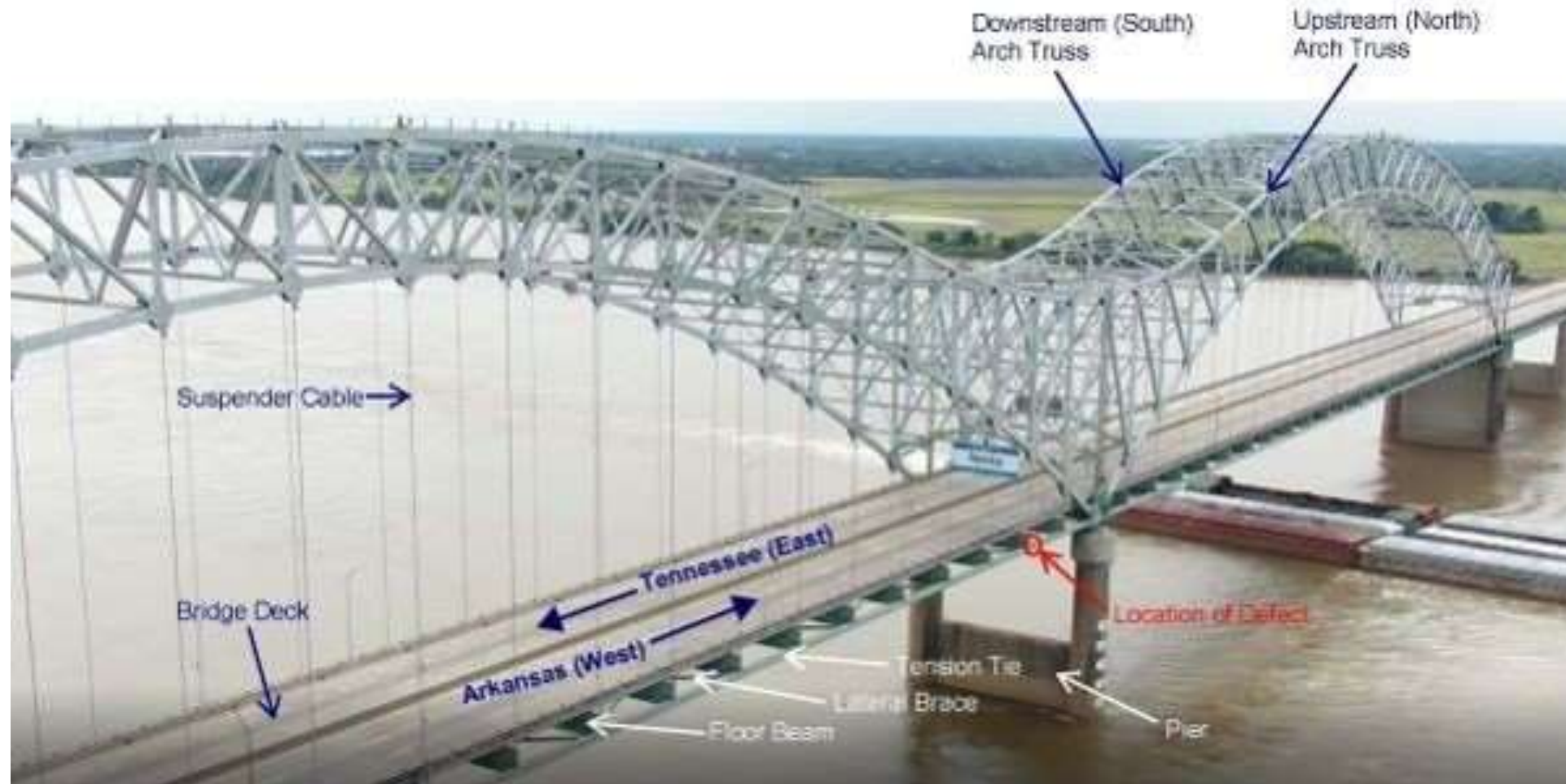
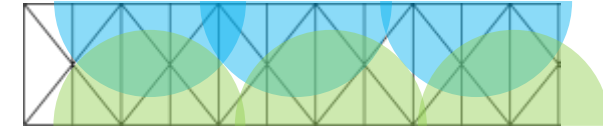
– FHWA Review 2015

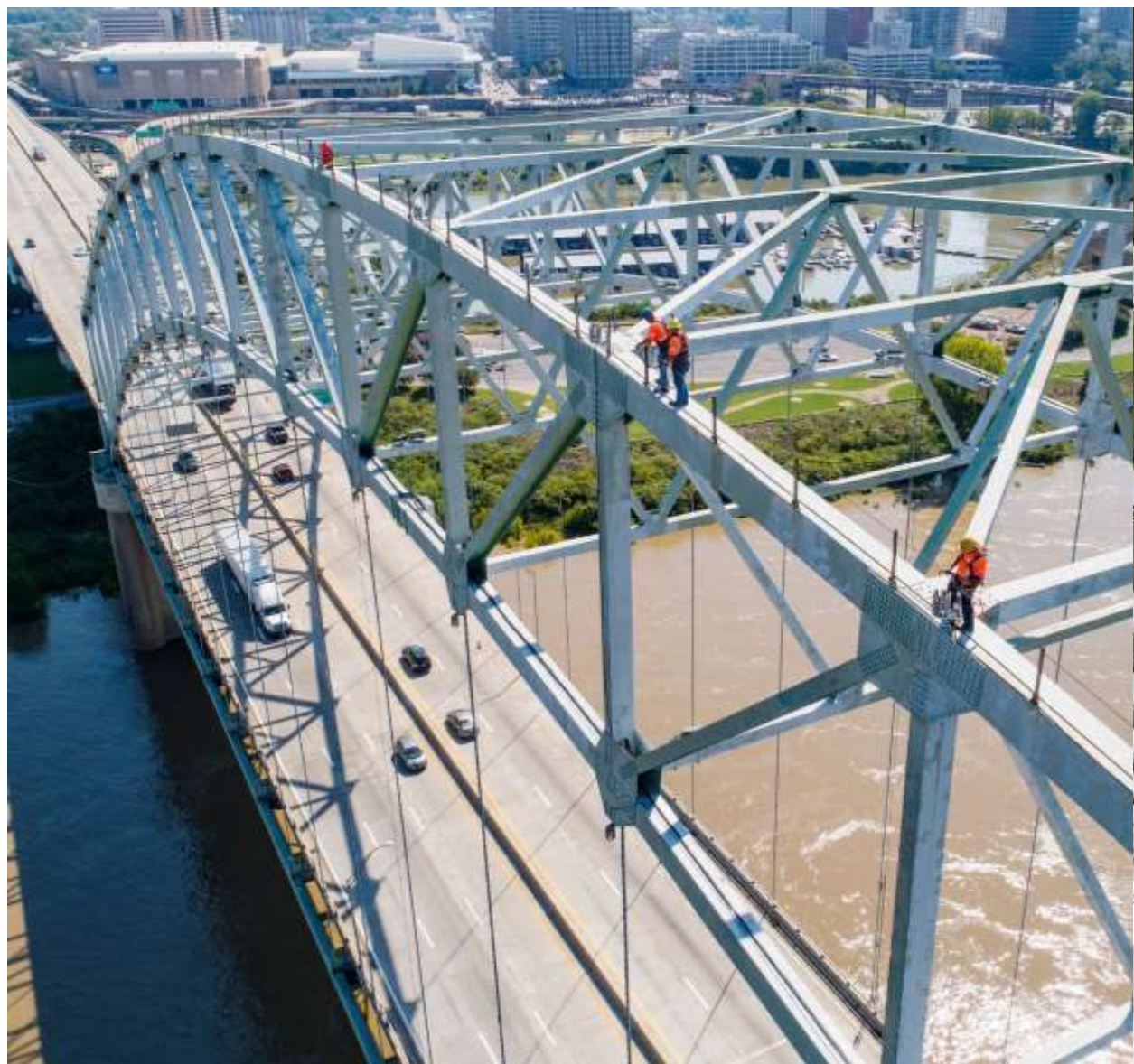
“The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) has a functioning and effective Bridge Inspection Program.”

– FHWA Review 2018-19



Inspecting the I-40 MS River Bridge





Inspecting Above
I-40 MS River Bridge



Inspecting Below
I-55 MS River Bridge



Press Conference

We spoke to media about the closure, inspections, and repair plans.



Safety First

We immediately started another inspection of the I-55 MS River Bridge.



Gather Information

We, TDOT, the FHWA, and contractors HNTB and Michael Baker assessed the damage.



INVESTIGATION

Earlier Evidence

Drone footage from a routine inspection of the cables in 2019.

Investigation and Review

- Requested US DOT Inspector General assign a special agent to investigate.
- FHWA reviewing our Bridge Inspection Process and Compliance.
- Asked TDOT to re-inspect and review our previous inspection of the I-55 MS River Bridge.
- Solicited consultants to review our Bridge Inspection Program.





Phase 1 Platform

Kiewit Infrastructure Group installed the temporary platform for Phase 1 Repairs.



May 22, 2021

Kiewit worked in shifts 24 hours a day on Phase 1 Repairs.



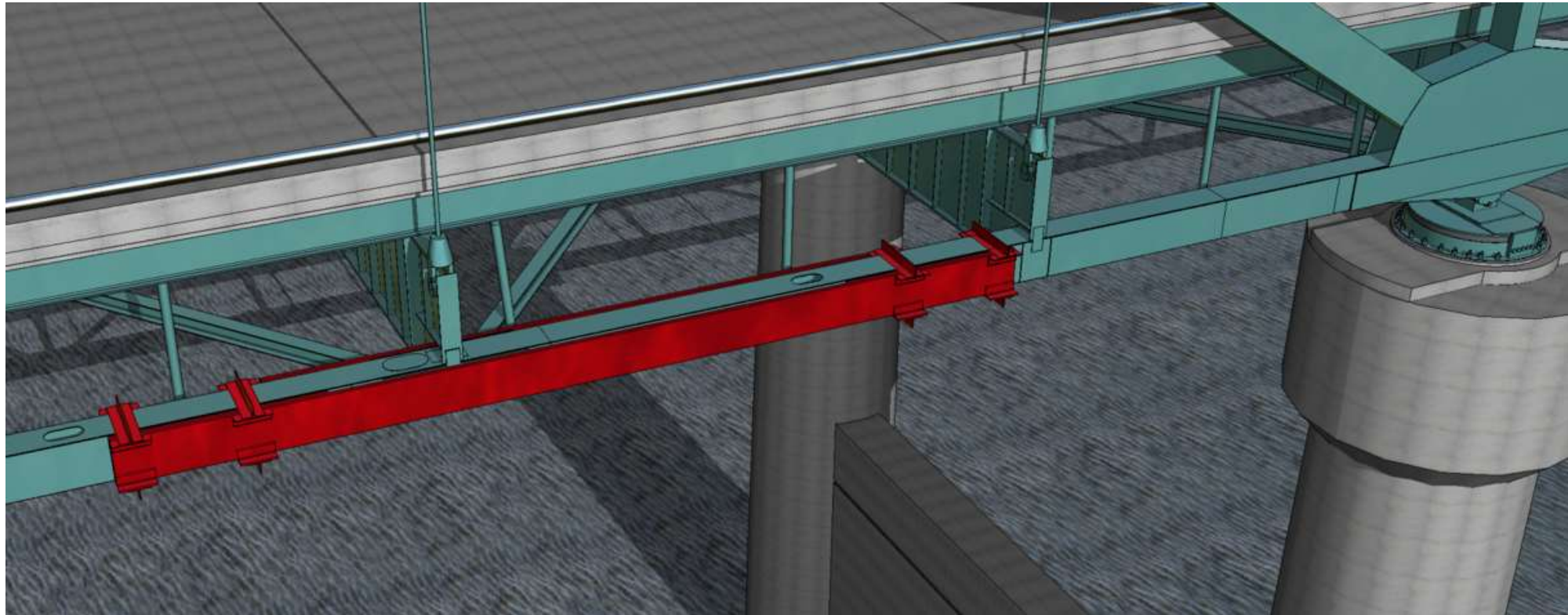
May 25, 2021

Kiewit completed Phase 1 Repairs.

Phase 2 Repairs

MAY 26

Design Finalized



“It’s amazing what can be accomplished
when you don’t care who gets the credit.”

- Harry S. Trumann

Bridge Inspection Program

- Increase to Heavy Bridge Maintenance Budget
- 2021 - \$3.5 Million
- 2022 - \$6.4 Million



State Highway Bridges

\$152M FOR REHABILITATION

\$502M for Replacements

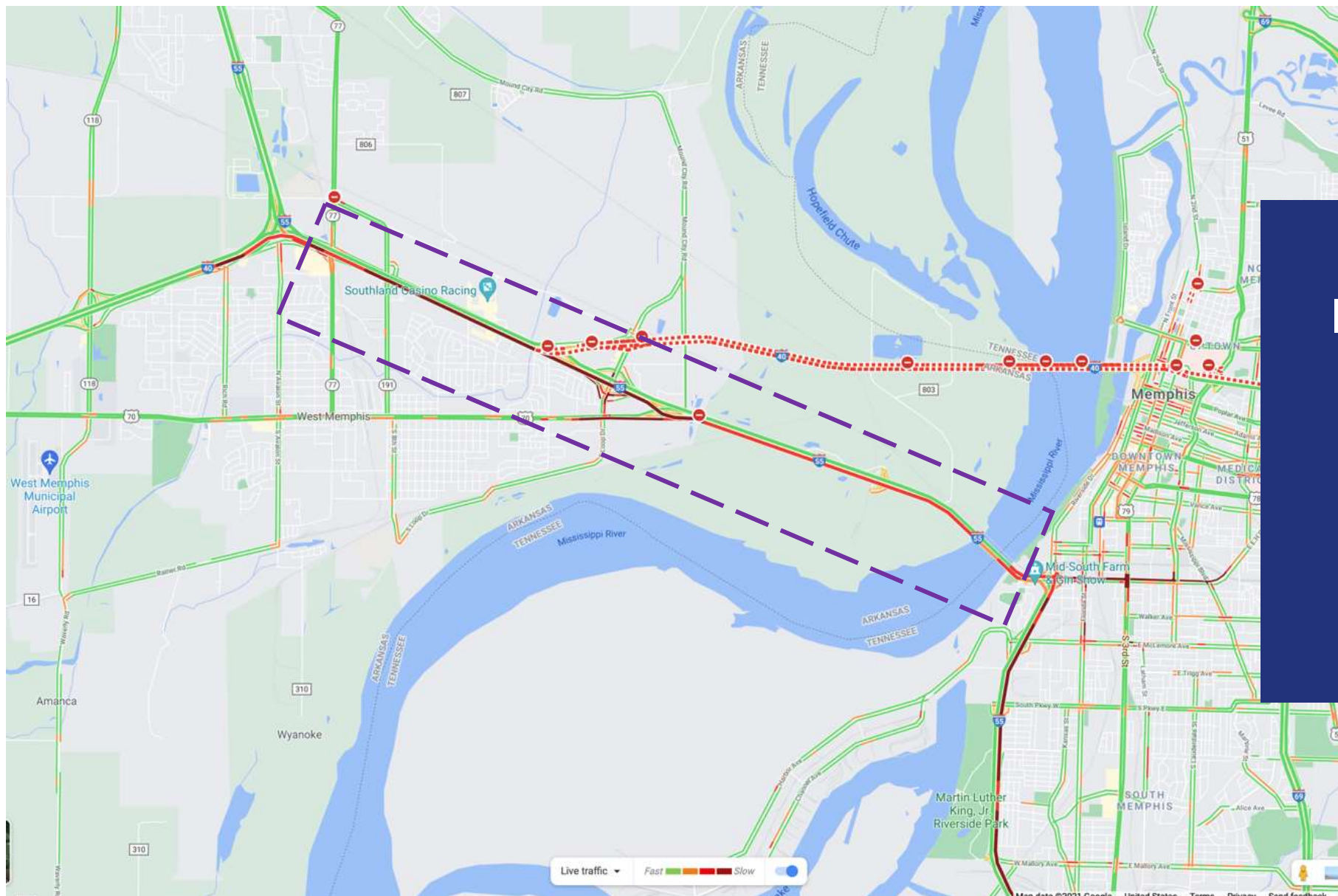


State Highway Bridges

RENEW ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS PROGRAM

Est. \$1.1 Billion – 10 Year





I-40/I-55 Western
Interchange
to
I-55/Crump Blvd.
Interchange

[illegible]

West Memphis Interstate 40 and Interstate 55 Traffic Pattern Changes



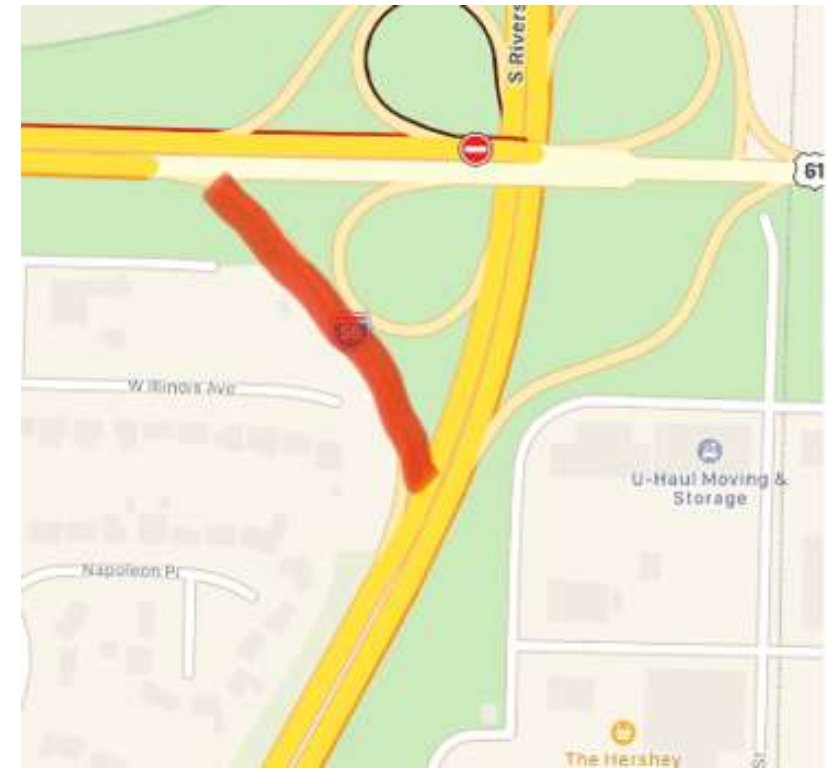
Facing Northbound

Originally there was only a single lane for traffic traveling I-55 Southbound.



Facing Southbound

TDOT added a lane to the ramp at the Crump Interchange.



Improved Section

Their crews paved and restriped this section of the interchange over a weekend.

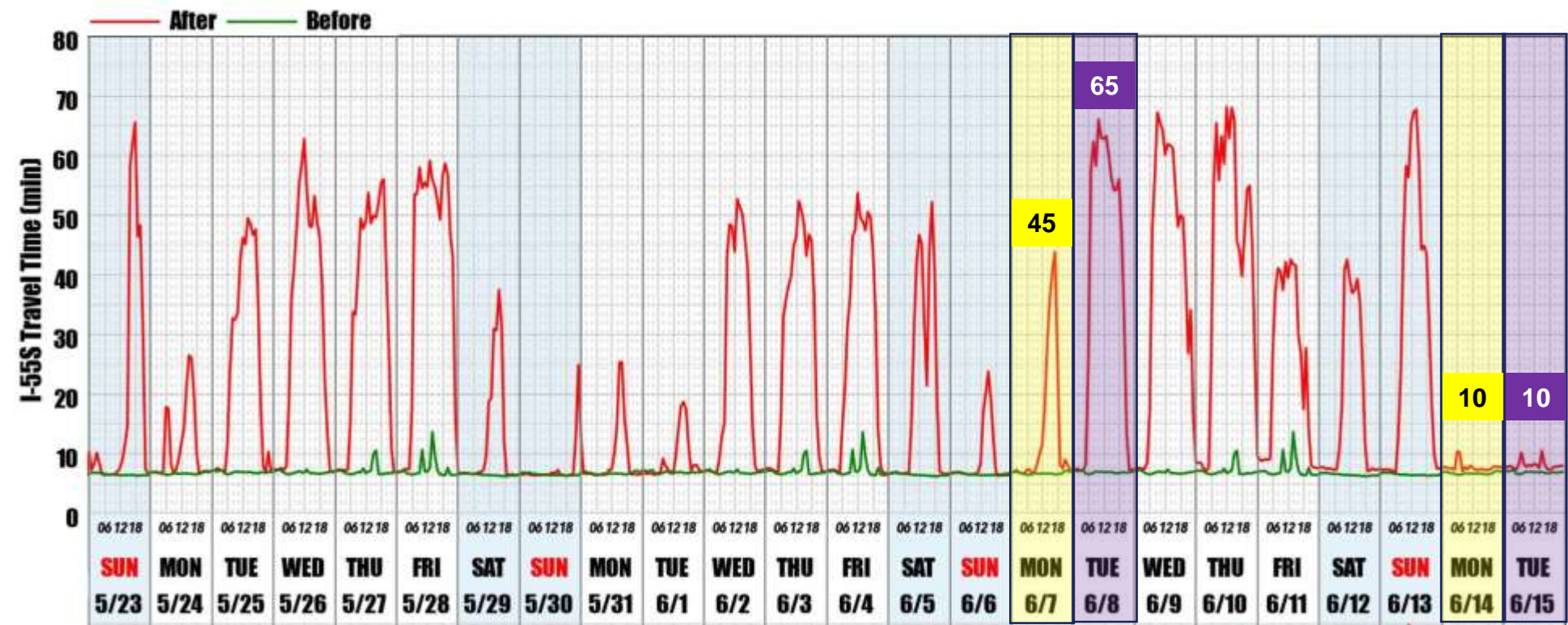
Traffic Delay Data

MONDAYS

35 Min. Faster

TUESDAYS

55 Min. Faster



“Never let a good crisis go to waste”.

~Winston Churchill

